बाघों और अन्य वन्य प्राणियों की सुरक्षा के लिए कार्य बल

1998.**श्री रामगोपाल यादव:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में बाघों और अन्य वन्य प्राणियों की सुरक्षा और वन्य जीवों तथा वनोपज के अवैध व्यापार को रोकने के लिए कोई कार्य बल गठित किया है या करने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है तथा उसका अधिकार क्षेत्र क्या और किस प्रकार का होगा; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बाबू लाल मरांडी): (क) से (ग) बाघों/वन्यजीवों की सुरक्षा तथा वन्यजीवों और वनोपज के अवैध व्यापार को रोकने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा किसी कार्य बल की स्थापना नहीं की गई है/स्थापना का प्रस्ताव नहीं है। तथापि, सरकार द्वारा गठित अनेक समितियों ने मामलों की व्यापक जांच की है और बाघों/वन्यजीवों की सुरक्षा तथा वन्यजीवों और वन उत्पादों के अवैध व्यापार को रोकने के लिए सरकार को कई सिफारिशें की हैं।

Schemes to grow new forests in the N.E. region

1999. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes/projects etc. launched/contemplated by the Union Government to grow new forests in the North-Eastern Region; and

(b) the lessons drawn from experience of Eighth Five Year Plan in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Afforestation and tree planting activities are carried out throughout the country, including in the North East India, under the 20-Point Programme subject to the overall availability of funds under the Central and State Plans. These activities are taken up under the various schemes of the State Governments and Central Government. An illustrative list of schemes of the Central Government is given in the Statement (*See below*)

The targets and achievements for the North Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura in the Eighth Plan Period and in 1997-98 under points 16-A and 16-B of the Twenty Point Programmes were as follows:—

Area in hectares/Seedlings in lakhs

Targets				Achievements			
Seedlings Distribution (for planting on private lands)		Area (public lands including forest lands)		Seedlings Distribution (for planting on private lands)		Area (public lands including forest lands)	
8th Plan	1997-98	8th Plan	1997-98	8th Plan	1997-98*	8th Plan	1997-98*
1451.65	219.00	503138.00	104800.00	983.20	200.95	332624.43	34779.00

* Complete information from all States/UTs is yet to be received.

On the basis of experience in the Eighth Plan and the continuing need to enhance green cover in the North East India the targets fixed for 1998-99 are as folllows:—

Area in hectares/Seedlings in lakhs

Targets (1998-99)	
Seedlings Distribution (for planting on private lands)	Area (public lands including forest lands)
219.00	104800.00

Statement

(a) *Ministry of Environment & Forests*

1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme.

2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme.

3. Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme.

4. Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies.

5. Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries.

6. Project Tiger.

7. Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in the Regeneraton of degraded forests.

(b) *Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment*

1. Desert Development Programme.

2. Drought Prone Area Programme.

3. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

4. Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme.

5. Employment Assurance Scheme.

(c) *Ministry of Agriculture*

1. Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.

2. Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone River of Indo-Gangetic basin.

Dumping of Toxic Wastes in India

2000. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-powered panel looking into the issue of hazardous wastes has found that containers full of toxic substances "exported" to India by other countries are laying unclaimed in several parts and inland containers depots;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether it is a fact that the country is becoming a dumping ground for toxic wastes; and

(d) if so, measures taken by Government to ban such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the issue of quantum and nature of hazardous wastes lying at the docks, ports and inland containers depots has been examined by a High Powered Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The status of the hazardous wastes lying at various ports is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 184. Annexure No. 63] These wastes have been confiscated by the Commissioner of Customs as parties have abandoned it.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per rule 11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989, imports of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal. However, imports of such wastes may be allowed for processing or reuse as raw material after examining each case on merit. From April 1995, import of hazardous wastes has been restricted to actual users with an import licence. *Vide* order dated 5.5.1997, the Supreme Court of India in a public interest litigation Writ Petition No. 657/95 - Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology versus Union of India and Others ordered that no authorization/permission should be given by any authority for imports banned by the Central Government or by any order made by any Court or any authority. Seven permissions for imports of hazardous wastes have been granted so far from 1989 till 1996. During 1998 two importers have been granted permission for negotiations with the exporters.

Preservation of Flora and Fauna of the North-Eastern Region

2001. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact of damage to the preservation of the rich flora and fauna of the North-Eastern region;

(b) the steps taken to preseve the flora and fauna of the North-Eastern regions; and